

back to work, is what we want to have happen. They are essential for the long run, as well, to lay the groundwork for future growth and future prosperity. That growth will bring the added benefit of higher revenues for the Government, revenues that will keep tax rates low while fulfilling key obligations and protecting programs such as Medicare and Social Security.

We're meeting the challenges to America. We're strengthening our economy, and we're taking a battle to our enemies. And we're not going to leave our work half-finished. In the months ahead, we'll confront every threat to the safety and security of the American people. We'll press on to turn our recovery into lasting growth and opportunity that reaches every corner of America. By the courage and by the enterprise of the American people, this great Nation will prosper, and there's no doubt in my mind this great Nation will prevail.

May God bless you all, and may God bless America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:07 p.m. in the Sheraton Chicago Ballroom at the Sheraton Chicago. In his remarks, he referred to Michael H. Moskow, president and chief executive officer, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago; Mayor Richard M. Daley of Chicago, and his wife, Maggie; Governor-elect Rod R. Blagojevich of Illinois; and President Saddam Hussein of Iraq. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks.

**Memorandum on Determination Pursuant to Section 2(c)(1) of the Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1962, as Amended**

*January 7, 2003*

Presidential Determination No. 2003-09

*Memorandum for the Secretary of State*

*Subject:* Determination Pursuant to Section 2(c)(1) of the Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1962, as Amended

Pursuant to section (2)(c)(1) of the Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1962, as amended, 22 U.S.C. 2601(c)(1), I hereby determine that it is important to the national

interest that up to \$11 million be made available from the U.S. Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance Fund to address unexpected urgent refugee and migration needs arising from the crises in Cote d'Ivoire and Liberia, and from the return of refugees to Sierra Leone and Angola. These funds may be used, as appropriate, to provide contributions to international, governmental, and nongovernmental organizations.

You are authorized and directed to inform the appropriate committees of the Congress of this determination and the obligation of funds under this authority, and to arrange for the publication of this memorandum in the *Federal Register*.

**George W. Bush**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., January 10, 2003]

NOTE: This memorandum was published in the *Federal Register* on January 13.

**Letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives Transmitting Requests for Budget Amendments**  
*January 7, 2003*

*Dear Mr. Speaker:*

I ask the Congress to consider the enclosed requests for Fiscal Year 2003 budget amendments for the Departments of Agriculture, Health and Human Services, the Interior, Labor, and the Treasury; the Corps of Engineers; as well as the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and the Federal Trade Commission.

The details of these requests are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget. I concur with his comments and observations.

Sincerely,

**George W. Bush**

**Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting a Report on Cyprus**  
*January 7, 2003*

*Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. Chairman:)*

In accordance with section 620C(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended,

I am providing a report prepared by my Administration on progress toward a negotiated solution of the Cyprus question covering the period October 1, 2002, through November 30, 2002. The previous submission covered events from August 1, 2002, through September 30, 2002. Particularly significant during this period was U.N. Secretary-General Annan's submission on November 11 to Greek Cypriot leader Glafcos Clerides and Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash of a proposed basis for a Cyprus agreement.

As in past reporting periods, U.S. officials provided diplomatic support to the process, including Secretary of State Powell, National Security Advisor Rice, Special Cyprus Coordinator Thomas G. Weston, and Ambassador to Cyprus Michael Klosson. The United States remains committed to the U.N. effort to find a just and lasting settlement to the Cyprus problem.

Sincerely,

**George W. Bush**

NOTE: Letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Richard G. Lugar, chairman, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. An original was not available for verification of the content of this letter.

## Remarks on the Anniversary of the No Child Left Behind Act

January 8, 2003

**The President.** Thank you all. Thanks for coming. Thank you. It's one of the few jobs in America where you get introduced by your wife on a regular basis—[laughter]—in your home. [Laughter] And we're glad you're here. This is a—you're one of our first guests we've had since the new year. And this is an appropriate gathering because Laura and I share a deep passion to make sure every child gets educated in America.

We want to thank you for coming. And this is an interesting day. It marks the anniversary of an incredibly important legislative accomplishment. It was a year ago that I signed the No Child Left Behind Education Act. It was the most meaningful education reform probably ever.

I wish all the Democrats and Republicans who helped us on that bill were here today.

They've got other business. One Republican is here, and that's Senator Judd Gregg from New Hampshire, who is the author—the Senate author on the Republican side.

This was a part of what is possible in Washington. It was a legislative victory on behalf of the children of America. And it showed the American people that when people set aside this needless partisan bickering, we can get some positive things done.

So, a year ago we signed the piece of legislation that I'm absolutely confident is going to change our schools for the better, change the whole structure of education for the good. But it also was a signal to those who love to divide in Washington, DC, that when we put our minds to it, when we focus on the greater good, we can get a lot done.

So I want to congratulate the members of both political parties on this anniversary for working so hard to accomplish a significant and meaningful piece of legislation. And now we've got to get to work. Now we got to do the job that's expected.

We can say that the work of reform is well begun. And that's—that's a true statement. The work will be complete, however, when every school—every public school in America is a place of high expectations and a place of achievement. That is our national goal.

And there are a lot of good people working on that goal. We've got good people here at the Federal level working on it—no better advocate than—excellence in public schools than Laura. She was a schoolteacher. She's a schoolteacher. She's a reading expert. She is a public school librarian. She's very knowledgeable, and she is passionate. And so this year she's going to spend a lot of time working with the local folks to achieve excellence for every single child.

And so is our—so is Rod Paige, who is running the Department of Education. I like to tease Rod a little bit. When I was looking for somebody to run the Department of Education, I wasn't interested in anybody who was good on the theory. I wanted somebody who was good on actually doing the job of being a superintendent of schools. And he ran the toughest school district in our State of Texas, which was the Houston Independent School District. And he did a great job, because he believed in high standards,